

PLEASE AMEND THE CLAIMS AS FOLLOWS:

Cancel claims 1-5, 14, 15, 16, 29, 30, 31, 54-69

7. (amended) A nickel-metal hydride multi-cell battery, comprising:

a battery case; and

a plurality of nickel-metal hydride electrochemical cells housed in said battery case, each of said cells including:

at least one nickel hydroxide positive electrode, at least one hydrogen storage alloy negative electrode and an alkaline electrolyte; and

an enclosure housing said at least one positive electrode, said at least one negative electrode and said electrolyte, said enclosure including a gas permeable membrane allowing passage of cell gases into and out of said cell but preventing passage of said electrolyte out of said cell.

9. (amended) The battery of claim 7, wherein said membrane comprises a hydrophobic material.

22. (amended) A nickel-metal hydride multi-cell battery, comprising:

a battery case; and

a plurality of nickel-metal hydride electrochemical cells housed in said battery case, each of said cells including:

at least one nickel hydroxide positive electrode,
at least one hydrogen storage alloy negative electrode and
an alkaline electrolyte; and

an enclosure housing said at least one positive
electrode, said at least one negative electrode and said
electrolyte, said enclosure having an opening allowing
passage of cell gases into and out of said cell; and

OP
a hydrophobic material positioned relative to
said opening so as to prevent passage of said
electrolyte out of said cell.